<u>REMARKS</u>

Claims 1, 3 and 5-18 have been withdrawn from further examination. Applicant reserves the rights to file divisional application(s) regarding the subject matters of the withdrawn claims. Claims 19-32 have been added. Such amendments are fully supported in the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

More particularly, new claims 19-32 are directed to methods of administering a composition comprising beta glucan and lactoferrin. The support for these claims can be found throughout the specification, especially in paragraphs [0029]-[0030], [0032]-[0034], [0040]-[0042], [0044], [0047]-[0049], [0056], and [0060]-[0061].

CONCLUSION

This preliminary amendment is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The Commissioner is authorized to charge Howrey Simon Arnold & White Deposit Account No. 01-2508/13479.0002.CPUS01 for the filing fee (\$395). Should any additional fees be required for any reason in connection with this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from the same deposit account.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned agent at (713) 787-1512 with any comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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